

TOM TRAM's 14
Mad Pranks and Merry Conceits.

PART II.



PRINTED IN THIS PRESENT YEAR.



THE
SECOND PART
OF
TOM TRAM,
SON-IN-LAW TO
MOTHER WINTER,

RELATING
All the Mad Pranks he played.

VERY PLEASANT AND DELIGHTFUL TO READ.

CHAP. I.

How Tom bound himself apprentice, and by what means he used to get from his master, and came home again.

TOM now was grown to man's estate but was as full of his knavery as ever, in-somuch that his mother-in-law, old mother Winter grew weary of him, and persuaded him

him to bind him self apprentice, whereby to learn some trade to get a living thereby. Tom seemed very willing but knew when and how to free himself, so he was bound to a shoe-maker for seven years, but did not serve seven weeks, for within the space of a month he grew weary of his trade, and studied all he could to get from his master, which he soon accomplished by means of an ape his master kept. For on a time his master going to dinner, and leaving nobody in the shop but Tom and the ape; Tom takes a knife, and makes as though he would cut his master's leather in pieces; which the ape perceiving, took the same knife, which Tom laid down, and cut a hide of leather in that manner, that it was quite unserviceable for any thing; the shoe-maker coming out and finding the ape cutting of leather in that manner, cry'd out, O thou villain! why dost thou let the ape cut the leather? Why, quoth Tom, I do not let him nor hinder him, he may cut it if he will; what doth he serve his time for, but to learn his trade! But why dost thou not beat him, quoth his master? Why should I beat him, quoth Tom, he is forward enough to learn for ought I see? his master hearing his cross answers, and fearing he would teach the ape more mischief, gave him his indentures

indentures, and without any more to do, he turned him away, being glad that he was gone, and Tom was as glad as he.

CHAP. II.

How old mother Winter married, and what pranks Tom played on the wedding day.

OLD mother Winter being vexed at the heart to see Tom come home again, told him that now she was resolved to marry if it were but to tame him. In good time, quoth Tom, please yourself, and you'll please me. So she being to marry an ancient man, when the day came, she left Tom at home to dress the wedding dinner, leaving a fat goose at the fire, a leg of mutton in the pot, and six great pies in the oven: when they were gone to the church to be married, Tom winds up the Jack, skims the pot, then sits him down and falls a rhyming:

My mother's gone to be marry'd they say,
A foolish doating mom;
Whilst I fantastick pranks will play,
She'd better staid at home.

Now Tom being thirsty, takes a pot, and down he goes to the cellar to taste the strong beer,

beer; in the mean time comes by a ragman, and smelling a good smell, draws the latch softly, takes the goose from off the spit, the leg of mutton out of the pot, puts 'em into his basket among his rags, and away he goes. Tom hearing the door jar, runs up with the spigot in his hand, letting the beer run about the cellar; and finding the goose and leg of mutton gone, he falls to chiming:—

While I did down below carouse,
It must not be forgot,
One came and stole away the goose,
And meat out of the pot;
Now for my part I'll never wive,
Such things would make me mad;
This marriage sure will never thrive,
The begining is so bad,
But I will down again and drink,
Sorrow must needs be dry,
Still let the pot and bonakin clink,
O never ask me why.

Down Tom runs, and finds the beer about the cellar, runs hastily up again, and draws the pies out of the oven, and carries them down into the cellar and lays them over the beer that lay on the ground, to make a bridge, that he might the better pass to the barrel

barrel without being wet-shod; so after that he had drank his fill, he bethinks himself what feats he should play to get a new wedding dinner for the bridegroom and bride, for the old dinner was stolen away by a rag-man; now Tom knowing there was a brood-goose in the barn, takes her off her eggs, kills her, and spits her feathers and all, so lays her down to the fire, winds up the Jack, and last of all, goes and sits upon the eggs, to keep them from cooling:—

I am no longer Tom, quoth Tom,

But now a goose you see;

I hope by that time they come home,

The other will roasted be.

No sooner had he ended his rhyming, but in comes the bride and bridegroom, old mother Winter seeing the goose at the fire with feathers on, thought it to be the devil in the likeness of a goose, knowing that people did not use to roast geese with their feathers on; upon this she began to call, Tom, where are you Tom? Tom answers, I am no longer Tom, I am a goose mother. The old man and the old woman hearing this, ran into the barn, and seeing Tom sitting upon the eggs took two cudgels, and fell a beating him; Tom to escape from them, took the eggs, flung them in their faces, and so escaped.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

How Tom took the rag-man that stole the goose and leg of mutton.

NOW Tom having but one poor groat about him, took up lodgings at an ale-house, and the next morning, in regard his stock was but small, called for a pint of ale and a crust; now in the next room there were two rag-men drinking, and one said to the other, I would we had something to eat, Oh, said the other, hadst thou been with me yesterday, thou hadst fared well; I tell thee what sirrah, I came by a house, where I smelt a good smell, and looking in at the window, I saw a goose at the fire, and meat in the pot, and nobody there; so I drew the latch softly, went in, and took the goose off the spit, and the leg of mutton out of the pot. No sooner had Tom heard him say so, but he stepped to him, and tells him the goose and leg of mutton were his, and unless he would make him amends, he would charge a constable with him, lay felony to his charge, and have him before a justice, where he should be committed to prison, to answer for what he had done; the rag-man fell down on his knees, and asked Tom for-
give-ness.

giveness and told him, he would borrow as much money as would make him full satisfaction for the wrong he had done him. Tom demanded five shillings, which the rag-man procured and gave him, so that money kept Tom till he had made his peace with his old mother, and his new father.

CHAP. IV.

How Tom went a hedging.

TOM being again received into favour, his mother-in-law, old mother Winter, persuaded her new husband to set him to work, to which Tom seemed very willing. Tom, quoth his father, if thou wilt be ruled by me, I will make a man of thee. Father, quoth Tom, I hope I am not a beast. Well then, quoth his father, take the hedging-bill, and go and mend all the hedges about my ground, I will father, quoth Tom. In the morning he calls to his mother, and intreats her to give him a needle to mend one of his hedging gloves, which she did. So Tom went to the field and mended all his father's hedges, and having not work enough to make up his day's work, he cut down all the hedges that encompas'd other men's grounds. A complaint

plaint was brought to his father about it, and then before a justice they went; when the justice was informed of this, he asked Tom, what he had to say for himself? Sir, quoth Tom, I will maintain I have done no harm in the least, but a great deal of good. How, quoth the justice. And thus quoth Tom there are to a y knowlege a great many poor men now at this fort of work, and I am sure I have made work for some cf them, Whereupon the justice smil'd at the conceit, and so dismiss'd him.

But when Tom came home, his mother asked him for the needle. Why, quoth Tom, I stuck it on a bush, I hope it is safe. O thou knave, quoth she, why didst thou not stick it in thy sleeve, or in thy skirt? Well mother, quoth Tom, I hope I shall learn to be wiser hereafter. And so taking leave, went to bed.

CHAP. V.

How Tom was sent by his father to the Smith, who lived three miles from his father's house, for all the ironis belonging to the plow.

NEXT morning Tom takes horse, and rides to the Smith's for his irons that belonged

belonged to the plow, and remembering of his mother's words concerning the needle, which was, that he should have stuck it in his sleeve, or in his skirt; he makes fast the irons as well as he could to his sleeve and his skirt; which with the trotting of the horse, did so tear his breeches and doublet, that his mother-in-law, old mother Winter, was like a mad woman when he came home. Why mother, quoth Tom, I think the devil himself cannot please you, did you not tell me I might have stuck the needle in my skirt, or my sleeve when I stuck it on the hedge? now I thought I should have pleased you in this. No, you knave, quoth she, thou should'st have bound those up in straw, and laid them on the horse's neck before thee, and then they would not have worn out your doublet and breeches. Nay if that be all, quoth he, I shall fit you I hope in time, and so went to bed.

CHAP. VI.

How Tom's father sent him for a mastiff dog.

NOW in the morning, Tom's father called him up betimes, to send him for the mastiff-dog which he had bought. Tom quoth

quoth he. he is a gallant house dog, and therefore I pray have a great care of him, and bring him home safe. I will father, says he. So Tom takes a horse, and rode five miles for the dog; when he came there, he remembered his mother's words concerning the plow-irons, binds the dog up in straw, and lays him on the horse's neck like a calf, with an hundred boys after him. O thou villain, quoth his mother, What dost thou mean by this? Why, quoth Tom, you told me I might have bound up the plow-irons, and laid them on the horse's neck; and if them, much more the dog, being more unruly than the plow-irons.

CHAP. VII.

How Tom's mother sent him to market to buy a leg of mutton.

O Tom, quoth his father, wilt thou never be good? why didst thou not tie the dog to the horse-tail, but make thyself a laughing-stock to the whole country? go now and buy me a leg of mutton. So Tom takes the horse, and rides to market, buys a leg of mutton, and ties it to the horse-tail, and traileth it all the way home upon the ground so 'twas good for nothing.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

How Tom's father sent him to thresh corn.

TOM quoth his father, thy mother and I must walk abroad this day, and would have thee thresh the corn out, and be sure the geese and the swine come not to eat it up; which if they should offer, I hope you are of age to take a course with them. I warrant you, father, quoth Tom, I will take such a course with them, that they shall not eat so much as a grain. No sooner were they gone but Tom kills all the geese and swine, and lays them at the barn door; so now quoth Tom, I think I have taken a course sufficient enough with you for eating of corn; and then fell to threshing: But when his father and mother came home, and saw the geese and swine lie dead at the barn door, they knew not what to say. Tom seeing them in a quandary, spake to them in this manner Why stand you amazed? have not I taken such a course as you desired, if not, I am sorry for it, for I am sure of one thing, here's all your corn safe according to my promise.

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

How Tom was sent to invite guests to eat up the swine and geese that he had killed.

IN the morning Tom's father was a long hour scolding of him for killing of the swine and geese ; and asked him, If that he long'd to be hang'd ? Nevertheless, since they knew not how to destroy them, without company, he sent Tom to invite guests to eat what he had killed. Tom goes and invites all the beggars in the country, and all Tom's guests were blind and dumb ; so Tom gets a cord and ties them together, and brings them home, placing them in order. Now instead of saying grace, Tom's father and mother did nothing but curse and swear at him bringing such a crew of beggars to disgrace his house ; but Tom bid 'em fall too, and told 'em they were heartly welcome. Whom shall I invite, quoth Tom only such as wanted victuals ? the rich I am sure have enough, then is it not an act of charity to invite the poor ? So when Tom's guests had all dined, they took their leave, and gave Tom many thanks for their dinner.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

How Tom made his father break his shins.

TON's father had so cursed him for bringing the beggars to his house, that Tom vowed to be revenged on him; so one morning his father being in bed, and the room being somewhat dark, Tom sets a joint-stool in the middle of the room, then calls out, father, father, was ever the like seen, here are two mastiff dogs drawing at a waggon, come quickly. And Tom looked out of the window, as if it had been so indeed, in the mean time the old man leap'd out of his bed, and tumbles over the joint-stool, and breaks both his shins. Pox on you for a rogue, quoth he, where is this fight to be seen? O father, quoth Tom, had you not lost time by falling over the stool, you had seen them, but they are past by and gone.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

How Tom and his father went to the fair to buy horses, and what followed.

“**T**OM, quoth the old man, I have here forty pounds, which I mean to bestow on horses at the fair. And I would have you to carry the money for me. In good time quoth Tom, marry with all my heart, says Tom. So they travelled together, but it happened when they came to their inn, that Tom gave his father the slip, and was away from him for two whole days together with his bag of money, insomuch that his father gave them over for lost, but after Tom had spent ten shillings of it, he came again to his father; and when he came his father saluted him with these words, O thou villain, hast thou been away and spent and consumed my money? So the old man drew his sword, and told him he would cut him all in pieces. Insomuch that Tom was fain to take to his heels and run away and the old man followed him homewards. Now they were to pass along a bridge o'er a great river, and when Tom was on the middle of the bridge, he calls to his father in this manner,

Old

Old man now I care not a fart for you, for if you will not put up your sword, and come and shake hands with me, I'll let the bag of money fall into the river, he holding it up to shew him. The old man thinking he would be as good as his word, called to him, For heaven's sake hold thy hand and I will shake hands, and be friends. So being friends, they came home again very quietly.

CHAP. XII.

How Tom went to seek his fortune.

Tom's father and mother being weary of his mad pranks, turned him out to seek his fortune; so Tom travelled towards Wansor, and as he travelled along he found a book, by which he learned to cast a figure, and help people to their goods again that were lost; insomuch that Tom took a chamber and got a great deal of money, by helping of people to their own goods again. Now there was a country fellow that used to go to plow and cart, that took Tom to be a conjuror or a witch. O quoth this fellow, had I but this art, I would never go to plow and cart any more, then I might live like

like a gentleman, as this man doth ; I have but forty shillings in the world, and that I would give him to be a witch. So away he goes to Tom and salutes him in this manner, Sir, I understand that you are a witch, and can help folks to their goods again when they are lost ; now I would willingly give you forty shillings to lea[n] me to be a witch. Tom perceiving the simplicity of the fellow, smiled, and told him he would ; so the fellow gave him forty shillings ; Tom bid him come again the next morning, and he would give him a thing to eat that should make him a witch. The fellow being very glad, went home, intending to come again the next morning ; in the mean time, Tom gets and empties a close stool into a great earthen pot, and covers it all over with honey ; next morning the fellow came according to his promise to be made a witch. Tom gets him a spoon, and bids him fall too, for when he had eaten it, he would be an absolute witch ; the fellow eat as fast as he could, that he might the sooner as he thought be a witch : when he came about the middle he began to make a wry face : How quoth Tom, what do you think it is? Marry, quoth the fellow, I think it is a surreverence. Marry, quoth Tom, I think you are a witch. And that was all the fellow had for his forty shillings

lings and so returned home again with great shame and disgrace, to follow the plow and cart.

CHAP. XIII.

How Tom got five pounds for preventing a man from being made a cuckold.

THERE was a certain parson that loved a man's wife, called William of Wansor, and Tom observed it very well, now on a time this woman feigned herself to be sick, and sent her husband, William of Wansor, to fetch her a bottle of water, called the water of Absalon, which was five miles from the house; no sooner was he gone, but in comes the parson of the parish, who was commonly called Sir John. Tom seeing the parson go in, follows after William of Wansor with all speed he could; so when he was going, William of Wansor told him, his wife was sick, and had sent him to fetch her a bottle of water at Absalon, which was fain to cure many diseases. Oh, quoth Tom, she is well enough, now the parson is with her, and if thoult be ruled by me, we will find out all the knavery? By what means, quoth William of Wansor, may we find it out? Why, quoth Tom,

Tom, I will put thee in a sack there, and I'll stand at the door, and hear what they say, and if occasion be, I will rush in, and thou shalt come out of the sack. William approved of it, and liked well the plot: So Tom takes William of Wansor, and puts him into a sack, and carries him to his wife, and prays her to let him leave that sack, which was full of malt, in the chimney corner, and in the morning he would bring a horse, and fetch it away: With all my heart, quoth she, little dreaming that her husband was in the sack. Away goes Tom, and stands at the door, to hearken what they would say: now the parson and she were at breakfast together, and began to sing this following song, which may be sung to the tune of, "The owl is the fairest in her degree.

Woman.

William of Wansor he is gone,
To fetch some water at Absalon,
I'll make him a cuckold before he comes
home,
Sing hey tro non ne, non ne, non ne.

Parson

Parson.

William of Wansor; I know what I think,
 I'll eat thy bread, and drink up thy drak,
 To end all strife, I'll lye with thy wife,
 Sing hey tro no ne, &c.

Tom comes in.

William of Wansor, if thou be near,
 Come out of the fack without any fear;
 If any mishap, I'll stand at thy back;
 Sing hey tro non ne, &c.

William of Wansor comes out of the fack.

By your leave, gentry, all on a row,
 Some of your secrets do I well know;
 Sir John shall be gelded before he does go,
 Sing hey tro non ne, &c.

Sir John seeing himself surprized, stood trembling and quaking, and knew not what to say for himself on a sudden. Come Tom, says William, let us geld the parson. With that the parson fell down upon his knees, and asked forgiveness, craving mercy of William of Wansor. Well quod Tom, seeing he is penitent; if the parson will give

us five pounds a piece, he shall not be gelded, nor the matter known. William of Wanfor liked the motion very well, and the parson went home with all speed, and fetch'd the money, and gave it them, with thanks they used him so favourably. So Tom got five pounds, and the man five pounds more, and the parson saved the cutting off his stones.

CHAP. XIV.

How Tom saved a gentleman five hundred pounds, and had five pounds, for his pains.

THREE was a certain gentleman that made a very great feast, and did invite all the gentry in the country round about. Now it came to pass that the gentleman being wondrous merry, his tongue run before his wit, so that in this manner, he said he would drink up all the sea. Now another gentleman wondering at his assertion, offered to lay him a wager of it, which he accepted before a whole table full of gentlemen; but next morning he had forgot what he had done, 'till the gentleman that laid the wager came to demand it. The gentleman being in amaze, knew not what to say;

say ; but calling to mind, that Tom was a witty fellow and might do him some good in this business, sent one of his men privately for him. So Tom being come, the gentleman opened his case to him, and told him, If he could bring him off fairly, he would give him content for his pains. To whom Tom answered, If I save you five hundred pounds, I should deserve five pounds for my labour. Neither could he promise to do it, the busines being so intricate and hard ; yet he said he would do his endeavours ; but in brief the gentleman promised to give his cwn demands. And so going to the gentleman that he had laid the wager with, Tom begins thus, Sir, I understand this gentleman hath laid five hundred pounds with you, that he will drink up all the sea ; which, if he were able to do, as you know he is not, he is to drink no more than the sea. No more he shall, quoth the gentleman, Why then, says Tom, you must go and stop all the rivers and brooks that runs into the sea. That is impossible, quoth he, so is the other quoth Tom, so you have neither of you won nor lost. So Tom brought the gentleman fairly off, and had five pounds for his labour.

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To the READER.

READER,

THE last time I saw Tom, was at the Half Moon Tavern, in Aldersgate-street, where we drank each of us a pint of sack, to rub our inventions; and he hath promised me the next mad-pranks he plays, he will send them up by Tom Long, the carrier, to make a *Third Part*, which promise he having lately fulfilled, is now published.

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